AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete, marked-up listing of revised claims with a status identifier in parenthesis, underlined text indicating insertions, and strike through and/or double-bracketed text indicating deletions.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, at a first network controller operating according to a first radio technology, a message relay request from a mobile station for which the first network controller is handling a packet switched call;

forming a relay message to include an embedded message for conveying a switch in radio technology; and

sending the relay message over a tunneling medium to a second network controller operating according to a second radio technology.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the embedded message is a message pursuant to the second radio technology.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein

the message relay request includes an origination message for originating a call at the second network controller operating according to the [[a]] second radio technology; and

the relay message includes the origination message as the embedded message.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein the message relay request includes an identifier identifying the message relay request as the [[a]] message relay request.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the forming step further includes in the relay message an identifier of a packet data serving node handling the packet switched call of the mobile station.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

receiving a second relay message, from the second network controller, including a channel assignment message, the channel assignment message indicating a channel assigned to the mobile station for communicating with the second network controller; and

sending a message relay response to the mobile station that includes the channel assignment message.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the embedded message is a handoff request requesting handoff of the mobile station to the second radio technology.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the embedded message is a transition message requesting transition of [[a]] the packet switched call for [[a]] the mobile station handled by the first radio technology to a call for the mobile station handled by the second radio technology.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the transition message requests transition of the packet switched call for the mobile station handled by the first radio technology to [[a]] another packet switched call for the mobile station handled by the second radio technology.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the transition message requests transition of the packet switched call for the mobile station handled by the first radio technology to a circuit switched call for the mobile station handled by the second radio technology.

11. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving a relay message from a first network controller operating according to a first radio technology at a second network controller operating according to a different, second radio technology, the relay message (i) including a transition message indicating to transition a packet switched call for a mobile station handled by the first network controller to a call for the mobile station handled by the second network controller, and (ii) being sent over a tunneling medium between the first network controller and the second network controller.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is an origination message for originating a call with the second network controller.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the relay message further includes an identifier of a packet data serving node handling the packet switched call of the mobile station.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

establishing a signaling relationship with the identified packet data serving node such that the second network controller receives packetized traffic destined for the mobile station.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is a handoff request requesting handoff of the mobile station to the second network controller.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

sending a second relay message including a channel assignment message to the first network controller, the channel assignment message indicating a channel assigned to the mobile station for communicating with the second network controller.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is for transitioning [[a]] the packet switched call handled by the first network controller to [[a]]another packet switched call handled by the second network controller.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11, wherein the transition message is for transitioning [[a]] the packet switched call handled by the first network controller to a circuit switched call handled by the second network controller.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of communication between wireless elements and a wireless unit, the method comprising:

sending at least one message identifying (i) wireless elements in use by ~~the~~ a wireless unit and (ii) wireless elements available to the wireless unit for each of a plurality of network types; and

receiving a selection of at least one selected wireless element from the wireless unit.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the at least one message includes at least one of an identifier of a network type of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit, and an indicator of whether the wireless element in use by the wireless unit can relay messages to the at least one selected wireless element.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the at least one message includes network configuration parameters to identify ~~the~~ at least one of the plurality of network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the message identifies ~~the~~ at least of the plurality of one network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein the at least one message includes parameters with which the wireless unit may select one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, whereupon a selection of one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit by the wireless unit, the wireless unit communicates with ~~the~~ a current wireless element ~~its~~ a choice of the at least one selected wireless element to subsequently relay messages.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the current wireless element at least one of, (i) relays messages to and~~/or~~ (ii) relays messages from the at least one selected wireless element from the wireless unit.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, whereupon (i) a selection of one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit by the wireless unit and (ii) confirmation by ~~the~~ a current wireless element, the current wireless element at least one of,

relays messages to ~~and/or from~~ the selected wireless element from ~~and/or to~~ the wireless unit, and

relays messages from the selected wireless element to the wireless unit.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein ~~the~~ a message identifying the at least one selected wireless element indicates that ~~all~~ at least one of subsequent messages to and~~/or~~ subsequent messages from the wireless unit are to be relayed by ~~the~~ a current wireless element.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein at least one of (i) each message to be relayed to and~~/or~~ (ii) each message to be relayed from the wireless unit by ~~the~~ a current wireless element identifies the at least one selected wireless element to which the each message is to be relayed.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of communication between wireless elements and a wireless unit, the method comprising:

receiving at least one message identifying (i) wireless elements in use by ~~the~~ a wireless unit and (ii) wireless elements available to the wireless unit for each of a plurality of network types; and

selecting at least one selected wireless element for possible future service based on the message.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one message includes at least one of an identifier of a network type of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit, and an indicator of whether the wireless element in use by the wireless unit can relay messages to the at least one selected wireless element.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one message includes network configuration parameters to identify ~~the~~ at least one of the plurality of network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the message identifies ~~the~~ at least one of the plurality of one network types of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the at least one message includes parameters with which the wireless unit may select one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit.

34. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the wireless unit selects one of the wireless elements for service based on the at least one message and a preferred roaming list.

35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, whereupon a selection of one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit by the wireless unit, the wireless unit communicates with ~~the~~ a current wireless element ~~its~~ a choice of the at least one selected wireless element to subsequently relay messages.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the current wireless element at least one of, (i) relays messages to and~~/or~~ (ii) relays messages from the at least one selected wireless element from the wireless unit.

37. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, whereupon (i) a selection of one of the wireless elements available to the wireless unit by the wireless unit and (ii) confirmation by ~~the~~ a current wireless element, the current wireless element at least one of,

relays messages to ~~and/or from~~ the selected wireless element from ~~and/or to~~ the wireless unit, and

relays messages from the selected wireless element to the wireless unit.

38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein ~~the~~ a message identifying the at least one selected wireless element indicates that ~~all~~ at least one of subsequent messages to and~~/or~~ subsequent messages from the wireless unit are to be relayed by ~~the~~ a current wireless element.

39. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein at least one of (i) each message to be relayed to and~~/or~~ (ii) each message to be relayed from the wireless unit by ~~the~~ a current wireless element identifies the at least one selected wireless element to which the each message is to be relayed.

40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

prior to selecting, requesting additional information on the wireless elements available to the wireless unit from ~~the~~ a current wireless element.